

NORTHERN TRIBUNE,

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1881.

No civil service reform can collect the internal revenue of the country with greater safety than it is collected. Over \$600,000,000 in five years without a cent of loss.

THE low rates at which the railroads are carrying east bound freights is severely interfering with the prosperous management of the Erie canal. Business on it is so light that its managers contemplate an immediate and large reduction in the number of persons employed.

KENTUCKY has passed safely through another election, and some think it has gone Democratic. Several good Republicans have, however, been elected to the Legislature, and large Republican gains are reported in many counties. There are some live Republicans in Kentucky, and the future is not uncertain.

THE commerce of the United States was never greater than during the fiscal year that has just closed. The imports of mercantile amounted to \$642,593,219, and consisted mostly of articles of luxury, while the exports, which were mostly provisions and breadstuffs, amounted to over nine hundred millions.

THERE were over 100 colored delegates in the Mahone convention in Virginia who were treated with precisely the same consideration with the white delegates. In the Conservative Democratic convention there was not one colored man. There is what they proclaim it to be, "a white man's party," and as such ought to be crushed.

THE experiment of electing a Democrat to office to secure "reform" has been unsuccessfully tried by the Cincinnati Gazette. It refused to support the Republican candidate for Mayor last spring because he wasn't a man it liked, and succeeded in turning enough Republican votes to elect the Democratic candidate. It is now compelled to denounce him, and is very much disgusted at his administration.

THE treasury officials think that the balance in the treasury will be lower in October than at any time for some years past. At the beginning of August it was about \$155,000,000. August 12 there were \$15,000,000 in bonds due, and October 1 about \$50,000,000 more. The receipts for August and September above current expenses are estimated at \$20,000,000. If all the bonds due are presented for payment, the balance will therefore be reduced to about \$110,000,000.

THE Saloon-keepers' Association of Bloomington, Illinois, have taken action that deserves an acknowledgment, because it is to the effect that they will no longer sell liquor to minors, nor to habitual drunkards, nor to men who are in the habit of beating their wives. They have issued a circular inviting relatives to furnish them with photographs of such persons as belong to those classes, and with them as guides will endeavor to carry out the new and commendable plan.

THE Attorney-General recently gave an opinion which has been adopted by the Secretary of War and concurred in by the Secretary of the Interior, relative to the right of the President to establish military reservations on public lands. The Attorney-General holds that this power is conceded to the President by the courts and is sanctioned by various acts of congress; that such reservations may be made upon lands claimed by pre-emption settlers who have not made final proof and payment for the lands, but that homestead entry segregates the land from the public domain by original entry, and therefore military reservation cannot be declared upon lands entered under the homestead laws.

THE postoffice savings bank experiment in Canada is regarded as a great success by the Postmaster-General of the Dominion. Certainly it holds its popularity. During the year ending 30th June last, there was deposited \$4,175,042, nearly double the amount of any former year, while the withdrawals amounted to \$2,072,289, which latter sum is but little above the average withdrawn every year. At the close of the year there were 39,605 accounts open, representing \$6,208,225.77, or an average of \$156.75 per account. It is interesting to notice that this average is higher than it has ever been before. The nearest approach to it was \$147.04 in 1872. The interest paid out to depositors in the year was \$184,904.81. The total sum received by the bank since its establishment in 1868 is \$27,097,124, the total amount withdrawn, \$19,852,043, and the sum invested at depositors' request in Dominion stock, \$2,431,900.

THE net reduction in star route and steamboat mail service during July was \$314,664, and the total savings by reductions and discontinuances since March 4th is \$1,381,442.

THE London, England, News' financial article says: "It is believed that we shall send bonds instead of cash in liquidation of our debts to America to the extent of about \$15,000,000. France seems to be reserving gold against the American demand."

THERE is only one prominent journal in the south, the Charleston News and Courier, that advocates the policy, on the part of the Democrats, of contesting the admission of Lapham and Miller to the United States senate, on the ground that their election was illegal.

LAST Saturday at Indianapolis, Ind. the war on eastern passenger rates waged warm. The rate to New York opened in the morning at \$14, but was reduced every few minutes during the day, until New York tickets were selling at ninety-five cents at 6 o'clock in the evening.

SECRETARY WINDOM has framed and is now revising new rules and regulations to govern appointments and promotions in his department. He aims "to have the new rules practical and such as will actually determine the several adaptations of appointees for the places they are to fill."

GEN. HOWARD is giving the boys at West Point a touch of real army life. He makes them sleep in tents on the grounds, keeps them at hard work, teaches them the dainty art of digging entrenchments rather than the complicated kick of the billowy waltz, and in various ways is taking the nonsense out of the pupils of the nation.

DURING his recent visit to Canada Gen. Sherman is quoted as saying to a Goderich reporter, "I have always wanted to see the Canadian peninsula annexed—that is that part of Canada from Montreal to Georgian Bay westward to the lakes. It would make a splendid state. It's the only part of Canada I would like us to get; they could keep the rest."

GENERAL CHALMERS has announced himself as a Greenback candidate for the United States Senate in Mississippi in opposition to Lamar. This causes some indignation among the Democrats, some of whom say it is a move of Chalmers to get the votes of the Greenbackers in the House of Representatives to keep him in his seat which is contested by Lynch.

PEOPLE who grumble about railway charges and monopolies most frequently do so in ignorance. They do not consider the vast diminution in cost of transportation which those roads secure to the country. Very few farmers or other persons would consent to haul one ton (2,000 pounds) 30 miles for \$3. And yet these denounced railroad and steamship monopolists will carry 2,000 pounds of wheat from Chicago to the seaboard, and thence by steamer to Liverpool for \$3, a sum for which a farmer would not haul it 30 miles. Croakers will do well to consider these figures.

DURING the administration of General Raum as Commissioner of Internal Revenue the government has not lost a dollar through his bureau by a defaulter. Is that not good civil service? The methods of appointing men to office might doubtless be improved, but for twenty years the finances of the Nation have been managed with such honesty and fidelity as to compare with that of any country in the world. No private business has been so faithfully guarded and none has met with such a small per cent of losses as from the Treasury of the United States, from the days of Lincoln down to this hour. It is a fact worthy of remembrance.

A SPECIAL telegram to the Inter Ocean from Washington says: "There is a new phase in the star-route cases that the special agents have been considering, although it is expected that great difficulty will be experienced in establishing proof of what is known to be a fact in consequence of trouble in using Indians and renegades as witnesses. It is charged in this connection that the star-route contractors in New Mexico, Arizona, and other remote regions have been in the habit periodically of sending out a lot of worn-out horses and broken down stages which were destroyed by the Indians, or white men disguised as Indians, being hired for this business by the proprietors of the routes. The next move was to present a big bill to the government for the property, accompanied by affidavits to show that the horses killed were very valuable, and the stages burned were new and high-priced vehicles. It is remarkable how many of these bogus bills were paid. A Boston contractor is conspicuous for this business, and the number of valuable horses and coaches lost and paid for is marvelous."

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